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03-18-04

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Yasuhiko (nmi) Aoki et al.
Serial No.: 10/627,548
Filing Date: July 25, 2003
Group Art Unit: Unknown
Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR COMMUNICATING
OPTICAL TRAFFIC BETWEEN RING NETWORKS
NETWORK

Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

<p>Certificate of Mailing by Express Mail No. EV 324648932 US I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" under 37. C.F.R. 1.10 on the date shown below, and addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.</p> <p>Name: <u>Willie Jiles</u> Willie Jiles</p> <p>Date: March 16, 2004</p>
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, .97, and .98, Applicants respectfully request that the references listed in the attached PTO-1449 form be considered and cited in the examination of the Application. The present Application was filed after June 30, 2003. Therefore, under the July 11, 2003, waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i) by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, copies of U.S. Patents and U.S. Patent Application Publications listed in the attached PTO-1449 form are not enclosed. Copies of all other references are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

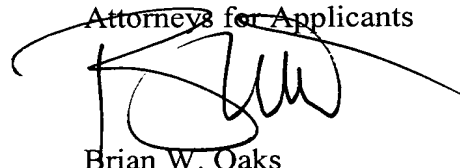
REMARKS

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3), Applicants believe this Information Disclosure Statement has been filed before the mailing date of the first Official Action. Therefore, Applicants believe no fee is due. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

Attorneys for Applicants

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Brian W. Oaks", written over the text "Attorneys for Applicants".

Brian W. Oaks
Reg. No. 44,981

Date: March 16, 2004

Correspondence Address:

Baker Botts L.L.P.
2001 Ross Avenue, 6th Floor
Dallas, Texas 75201-2980
(214) 953-6986

Customer Number

05073

PTO-1449	Application No. 10/627,548	Applicant(s) Yasuhiko (nmi) Aoki et al.	
	Docket Number 064731.0339	Group Art Unit Unknown	Filing Date July 25, 2003

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
A	2002/0145779	10/10/200	Strasser et al.	359	124	03/15/2002
B						
C						
D						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO

	DOCUMENT (Including Author, Title, Source, and Pertinent Pages)					DATE
E	Bacque, B. et al., "R-OADM Architecture - Now you can Control the Light," Tropic Networks, pp. 1-11					2003
F	U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/108,734, entitled "Method and System for Control Signaling in an Open Ring Optical Network," filed March 27, 2002					03/27/2002
G	U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/108,741, entitled "Method and System for Testing During Operation of an Open Ring Optical Network," filed March 27, 2002					03/27/2002
H	U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/112,022, entitled "Flexible Open Ring Optical Network and Method," filed March 28, 2002					03/28/2002
I	U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/158,523, entitled "Optical Ring Network with Optical Subnets and Method," filed May 29, 2002					05/29/2002
J	U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/158,348, entitled "Multiple Subnets in an Optical Ring Network and Method," filed May 29, 2002					05/29/2002
K	U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/159,499, entitled "Combining and Distributing Amplifiers for Optical Network and Method," filed May 30, 2002					05/30/2002
L	U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/159,307, entitled "Optical Add/Drop Node and Method," filed May 30, 2002					05/30/2002
M	U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/159,464, entitled "Passive Add/Drop Amplifier for Optical Network and Method," filed May 30, 2002					05/30/2002
N	U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/246,053, entitled "Optical Network and Distributed Sub-Band Rejections," filed September 17, 2002					09/17/2002
O	U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/262,818, entitled "Optical Ring Network with Hub Node and Method," filed October 1, 2002					10/01/2002
P	U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/448,169, entitled "Optical ring Network with Selective Signal Regeneration and Wavelength Conversion," filed May 29, 2003					05/29/2003

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.